Capped Major

What does Capped Major mean?

Capped major means there is a cap/limit on the number of students admitted to the major. Incoming freshmen and transfers who were not admitted directly into a capped major will need to apply to change into that major. Please see our webpage for more details at **http://cse.ucsd.edu/undergraduate/ admissions/capped-major-status**

f I'm not admitted to UC San Diego as a CSE major, what should I do prior to applying to change major?

Enroll in the CSE courses that fulfill eligibility requirements for applying to the major (below). Many of them also fulfill degree requirements for the other computational science majors at UC San Diego.

What are the eligibility requirements for applying?

1.   Minimum of **eight** units of CSE courses completed at UC San Diego for a <u>letter</u> grade, drawn from CSE 8B or 11, 12, 15L, 20 (or Math 15A), 21, 30, and 100.
2.   All of the following courses (or accepted equivalents) must be completed **prior** to application: CSE 8B or 11, 12, 15L, and 20 (or Math 15A).

How will decisions be made?

Students who meet a 3.3 GPA cutoff for screening courses will be entered into a lottery. Students will be **randomly selected** until the open number of seats in CSE are filled.

What are my odds of being accepted into the major?

It is *extremely* competitive to change to a CSE major. Chances of getting in to the major are based on how many applicants are there compared to the number of openings.
Openings vary based on:

- Number of incoming freshmen and transfer students admitted into CSE
- Number of CSE majors who graduated since last pool
- Number of continuing students who switched out of CSE

How can I learn more about the application process?

We hold several group advising sessions throughout the academic year and during Welcome Week. Students may meet with a CSE advisor during this time.

Computational Majors

If I am interested in the computational sciences, what are my options at UC San Diego?

There are several excellent choices available, offered by top-ranked departments All of the majors below (or specializations within them) prepare students for graduate work or a lucrative career in computational science. (This flyer describes the CSE department's major only.)

How do I decide the best option for me?

Make your **primary focus your academic and career goals**. Talk to Career Services, advisers, mentors, and the departments below. You will find there are at least two majors that will allow you to achieve your goals! If you identify those options prior to your application to UC San Diego, you will be ahead of the game and perhaps graduate sooner.

Computational Science Options

General Information: computingpaths.ucsd.edu/
Bioinformatics Specializations: *be.ucsd.edu, biology.ucsd.edu, cse.ucsd.edu*
Cognitive Science: *cogsci.ucsd.edu*
Computer Science & Engineering: *cse.ucsd.edu*
Economics: *economics.ucsd.edu*
Electrical & Computer Engineering: *ece.ucsd.edu*
Interdisciplinary Computing and the Arts: (ICAM): *visarts.ucsd.edu and music.ucsd.edu*
Mathematics: *math.ucsd.edu*

CSE Student Affairs Office

Computer Science and Engineering Building
Room 1231
Student Affairs Office: (858) 534-8872
csestudent@eng.ucsd.edu
cse.ucsd.edu

UC San Diego Computer Science & Engineering

Prospective Students 2017

Frequently Asked Questions

CSE Undergraduate Degree Programs and Major Codes

CS25: B.S. Computer Engineering (136 units)
CS26: B.S. Computer Science (124 units)
CS27: B.S. Computer Science: Bioinformatics Specialization (128 units)
CS28: B.A. Computer Science (116 units)

What is the difference between the B.A. Computer Science and the B.S. Computer Science degree?
As of Fall 2017, the requirements for these majors will vary greatly. B.A. students will have fewer course options, but will not need to take a statistics course. Graduates from **both degrees** are qualified for graduate school and the similar types of professional positions.

What is the difference between the B.S. Computer Science and the B.S. Computer Engineering degree?
The **B.S. Computer Science program** focuses on software. **The B.S. Computer Engineering program** focuses on both hardware and software .

What is the difference between the Computer Engineering majors offered by ECE and CSE?
ECE and **CSE** both offer a **B.S. Computer Engineering program**. The degree requirements are identical. Both are capped majors, and students apply to them separately. Contact ECE for information about their process and application.

What is the difference between the B.S. Computer Science and the B.S. CS: Bioinformatics degree?
The **Bioinformatics Specialization** places emphasis on biochemistry and biology courses in addition to computer science courses.

Several departments offer a Bioinformatics Specialization. What are the differences?
This interdisciplinary major is offered by **CSE, Biological Sciences and Bioengineering**. All of the Bioinformatics programs require the same lower-division and core courses, but the **upper-division electives will vary by department**.

What opportunities are available for me to explore graduate school or a career in education?
Talk to faculty about the possibility of signing up for **research** or **project units**. Sometimes students may earn credit toward the degree for these units. Students interested in the Five-Year B.S./M.S. Degree Program should also consult a CSE Advisor by **junior year.**

What co-curricular opportunities are available for CSE majors?
There are a number of opportunities available to CSE majors! Consider applying to be a Tutor, studying abroad, joining a student organization, participating in a research project, and holding an internship. More information can be found at **http://cse.ucsd.edu/StudentOpportunities**.

What careers are available to CSE graduates?
The field of computer science and engineering is experiencing rapid growth, and most of our graduates find full-time positions upon graduation.
- Many students continue on to **graduate school**.
- **Other students choose professional careers that involve:** the design of computer hardware and software systems in diverse areas such as computer graphics, computer-aided design, multimedia systems, databases, parallel computation, and bioinformatics.
- Companies that hire CSE graduates usually also hire graduates from UCSD's other computational majors (see reverse): Google, Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, etc.

How often are core CSE and criteria (for Capped Major) courses offered?
CSE does its best to provide as many seats as possible in all CSE courses. **All required criteria courses for applying to the major and core courses for the CSE major** are offered three to four quarters (counting summer) each year. There is flexibility in enrollment planning for progress to the degree. We encourage students to **plan strategically *prior* to their enrollment period.** Meet with your CSE Adviser to review and discuss a Long Term Course Plan. (Students who hope to change into the CSE major should meet with a College or Major adviser).

May I attend UC San Diego courses before I submit my Statement of Intent to Register (SIR)?
Schedule a Triton Tour with the Office of Admissions and Relations with Schools. A list of available courses can be found at **http://admissions.ucsd.edu/tours/.**

What should I do if I have more questions about the degree programs?
We encourage all admitted CSE majors to review our Undergraduate Program FAQ webpage: **cse.ucsd.edu/undergraduate/prospective-students** Here, you will find information about graduation and degree requirements, courses, internships, research, and more.

What are the next steps after I submit my SIR?
- Carefully review the application timeline posted on the UC San Diego Admissions webpage: **https:admissions.ucsd.edu.** Deadline to submit transcripts and AP scores will be posted here!
- CSE Advisors will meet with CSE majors starting Week 1 of Fall Quarter.

Welcome to UCSD!